



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 29 2018

Colonel Andrew Kelly  
District Engineer  
Department of the Army  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
Attn: Terry Hayes  
41 North Jefferson Street, Suite 301  
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Subject: SAJ-2011-00551, Ridge Road Extension, Pasco County

Dear Colonel Kelly:

This letter is in response to the public notice for application number SAJ-2011-00551, Ridge Road Extension, submitted by Pasco County Board of Commissioners and Florida Turnpike Enterprise (Applicants), published on September 25, 2018. The project was previously noticed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) on November 28, 2011. On January 27, 2012, and February 21, 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency respectively issued letters to your office pursuant to Part IV, sections 3(a) and 3(b) of the 1992 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404(q) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the EPA and the Department of the Army. As stated in those letters, the project as proposed on November 28, 2011, would impact aquatic resources of national importance (ARNI) and did not fully comply with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines). Specifically, the EPA identified concerns regarding the need for a valid jurisdictional determination and Uniform Mitigation Assessment Methodology, a complete alternatives analysis, minimization of road impacts, and a compensatory mitigation plan that complies with the Guidelines.

Based on our review of the available information, including substantial revisions to the project as reflected in the public notice dated September 28, 2018, the EPA no longer believes the project would have a substantial and unacceptable impact on ARNI. Therefore, we hereby remove the project from potential elevation under the 1992 CWA Section 404(q) MOA.

We greatly appreciate the revisions to the proposed project conducted by the Applicants and the Corps following the 2011 public notice. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Duncan Powell of my staff at [powell.duncan@epa.gov](mailto:powell.duncan@epa.gov) or (404)562-9258.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Y. S. Walker".

Mary S. Walker  
Acting Regional Administrator